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workmanlike achievement, and will doubtless supersede Goumy's and de Molinari's studies as the definite account of the man and his work. The author has an abiding enthusiasm for the industrious old dreamer—whom he endeavors to portray as less of a dreamer and more of a practical opportunist than popular tradition has recognized—but he retains throughout his sense of proportion, and gives a very discriminating estimate of the abbé's place in history. We follow the young Norman through his Jesuit schooling, his ardent pursuit of science in Paris, his favor at court and appointment as almoner to Madame, his election to the Academy through Mme. de Lambert's favor and his expulsion from it—nothing in his life as academician becoming him like the leaving it—on account of his mild criticism of Louis XIV. With the details of his life, or with the traits of character that led to La Bruyère's famous caricature of him as Mopse, most importunate of bores, or with his well-known project of universal arbitration and his schemes for the reform of the government of France, the economist is not directly concerned. More pertinent is his plan of tax reform, based on personal declaration of income and minute classification according to source, adopted with varying success in Picardy and Limoges and other provinces of France, and undoubtedly influencing Turgot. His writings on the reform of the system of state loans, on chartered companies, on road betterment and on poor relief show throughout capacity for detailed and ingenious working out of other men's general ideas, and entitle him to a modest place among the forerunners of the physiocratic school.

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Le Facteur Economique dans l'Avènement de la Démocratie Moderne en Suisse. I. L'Agriculture à la Fin de l'Ancien Régime. By WILLIAM E. RAPPARD. (Geneva: Georg & Co. 1912. Pp. 235.)

In the form in which it reaches us this book is but part of a large design. The author has planned to study the industrial revolution and the rise of the democracy in Switzerland, in the first half of the nineteenth century, in relation to their historical causes and their reaction on each other. Diverted from his work by the call to an American university, he has published an instalment of the whole work, an admirable monograph on Swiss

agriculture about 1800. The first chapter describes the technical and economic conditions affecting the chief products of agriculture; a second describes the organization in regard to land tenure and leadership; and a third describes the feudal charges on agriculturists, and discusses their economic, social and political effects. The book is based on an imposing array of printed sources (pp. 215-230), and also on manuscript material from the federal and provincial archives. A tendency to grandiloquence appearing in the more general passages does not impair the practical quality of the bulk of the work, which is executed with a judgment and precision that testify to excellent scientific training, and give good promise for the future.

Swiss agriculture at the end of the old régime was marked by the relative importance of the pastoral element compared with the arable, and by the predominance of small peasant properties. The proprietors were often in debt, and labored generally under feudal charges, of which the oppression was felt more keenly as the cultivators began to produce for the market, and sought to improve their methods of production. The opposing interests of debtor and creditor, of country people and city people, roused the peasants to a consciousness of class, and made them ripe for a revolutionary movement, when this began among the enlightened members of the city population.

In this substantial book the author has made a mere beginning on the comprehensive project, which would include similar studies of Swiss industry and trade, social classes, and social and political movements. We hope the project may be continued and completed.

CLIVE DAY.

Die schweizerischen Industrien im internationalen Konkurrenzkampfe. By DR. PETER HEINRICH SCHMIDT. (Zurich: Art. Institut Orell Füssli. 1912. Pp. 297. 6 m.)

In the first part, the author reviews in a suggestive rather than in an exhaustive and comprehensive way the geographic location of Switzerland, its natural resources, its laboring population, its capital and its importations of large quantities of raw materials and of coal. He also discusses the influx of foreign workmen. Dr. Schmidt views the latter with apprehension; however, he expresses the conviction that the tendency towards large-scale